

## GB858878

Publication Title:

Improvements in and relating to artificial breasts

Abstract:

Abstract of GB858878

858,878. Artificial breasts. EDE, G. R. Oct. 28, 1959 [Nov. 6, 1958], No. 35748/58. Class 81(2) An artificial breast comprises a bag 1 of flexible material partially filled with granular material 12, preferably of # inch grain size or less, introduced through a tube 14. Suggested granular material is a plastics material, such as poly- styrene having a specific gravity of 0.75 to 1.5. As shown, the bag comprises a circular rear piece 2 and semicircular front pieces 4 and 6 sewn to each other and to the rear piece 2. Any number of front pieces may be assembled in any way to produce a domed shape. The tube 14 may be folded back and retained by a loop 20.

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# PATENT SPECIFICATION

858,878

DRAWINGS ATTACHED.



*Date of filing Complete Specification : Oct. 28, 1959.*

*Application Date : Nov. 6, 1958. No. 35748/58.*

*Complete Specification Published : Jan. 18, 1961.*

Index at Acceptance :—Class 81(2), RX3.

International Classification :—A61f.

## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

### Improvements in and relating to Artificial Breasts.

I, GUY RASHLEIGH EDE, a British Subject, of Kenlake, Ockham Road South, East Horsley, Surrey, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent  
5 may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to artificial breasts.  
10 Patients who have undergone severe mastectomy operations become somewhat self-conscious and in order to relieve their anxiety are provided with artificial breasts. In order, however, that their anxiety is  
15 relieved as much as is possible, it is desirable to make such an artificial breast realistic not only in appearance but in "feel", that is to say, it must be of the correct weight, must be able to readily take up the  
20 desired shape and must be as readily deformable so as to be able to adapt itself to the movements of the body and arms.

According to the invention, an artificial breast comprises a bag of flexible material  
25 which is partially filled with a mass of granular material, which bag has an elongated open ended tube through which the granular material can be inserted or withdrawn from the bag.

30 The desirable qualities referred to above are imparted to the breast by the granular material. To achieve those qualities the material must, of course, be of the appropriate size and weight. The granules must  
35 also be able to slide readily over one another and the shape of the granules and the nature of the material is, therefore, of importance. It has been found that suitable granular materials can be produced from  
40 synthetic plastics, such as, for example, polystyrene, which have specific gravities in the

range of about 0.75 to 1.5. The granule size should be about one-eighth of an inch or less.

In general, the bag will be made of a  
45 textile fabric.

In order that the invention will be clearly understood, an example in accordance with it will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Fig. 1 is a front view of an artificial  
50 breast in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 2 is a section on the line II—II of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a rear view of an artificial breast.  
55

The bag is formed at its rear part which is to be worn against the body of a substantially circular piece of material 2. The front piece which forms the other half of the bag is made of two approximately semi-circular  
60 pieces 4 and 6. The pieces 4 and 6 are stitched at their edges 8 to the edges of the rear piece. The pieces 4 and 6 are so shaped that when stitched at their edges to the rear piece they form a dome shape. There is  
65 thereby formed a bag which in section is a segment of a circle. The junction 10 of the two half circular pieces is also stitched. The exact line of the stitching of the junction  
70 of the two diameters is made such that the resulting bag takes up, when partially filled with the appropriate amount of a granular material 12, approximately the desired shape.

An open ended tube 14 is formed at the  
75 top of the bag. This is conveniently done by providing on the rear part of the bag a piece of the material 16 which extends away from the substantially circular part in the direction of a diameter for a distance  
80 approximately half the diameter of the circular part. A similar extending part 18

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is cut out on the material forming the front part. When the bag is stitched together, the two extending parts are also stitched along the edges thus forming on the bag a  
 5 long open ended tubular neck which, when the breast is worn, can be conveniently folded across its rear. A loop 20 is provided on the rear through which the neck can be tucked.

10 In alternative constructions, the front can be made of one piece or of more than two pieces and can be made to take the required shape when the bag is filled by appropriate placing of darts or seams, as the case may  
 15 be.

The bag can be enclosed in a removable outer cover which is preferably of a material which can be easily washed.

#### WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

20 1. An artificial breast comprising a bag of flexible material which is partially filled with a mass of granular material, which bag has an elongated open ended tube through which the granular material can be  
 25 inserted or withdrawn from the bag.

2. An artificial breast according to Claim 1 in which the bag comprises a substantially circular piece of material forming the rear piece and a front piece formed from  
 30 one or more pieces attached at its or their

periphery to the periphery of the rear piece, which piece or pieces are shaped and arranged so that the front piece rises from the rear piece and is substantially dome  
 35 shaped.

3. An artificial breast according to Claim 2 in which the front piece is formed of two parts.

4. An artificial breast according to Claim 2 or Claim 3 in which the tube is  
 40 formed as an integral part of the bag.

5. An artificial breast according to any preceding claim in which the granular material consists of a material having a specific gravity between 0.75 and 1.5.  
 45

6. An artificial breast according to any preceding claim in which the granule size is not greater than one-eighth of an inch.

7. An artificial breast according to Claim 5 or Claim 6 in which the granular material  
 50 is polystyrene.

8. An artificial breast substantially as described herein with reference to the accompanying drawings.

For the Applicant:—

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#### PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

#### Improvements in and relating to Artificial Breasts.

55 I, GUY RASHLEIGH EDE, a British Subject, of Kenlake, Ockham Road South, East Horsley, Surrey, do hereby declare this invention to be described in the following statement:—

60 This invention relates to artificial breasts.

Patients who have undergone severe mastectomy operations become somewhat self-conscious and in order to relieve their anxiety are provided with artificial breasts.  
 65 In order, however, that their anxiety is relieved as much as is possible, it is desirable to make such an artificial breast realistic not only in appearance but in "feel", that is to say, it must be of the correct weight,  
 70 must be able to readily take up the desired shape and must be as readily deformable so as to be able to adapt itself to the movements of the body and arms.

According to the invention, an artificial  
 75 breast comprises a bag of flexible material which is partially filled with a mass of granular material, which bag has integral with it an elongated open ended tube through which the granular material can be  
 80 inserted or withdrawn from the bag.

The desirable qualities referred to above are imparted to the breast by the granular

material. To achieve those qualities the material must, of course, be of the appropriate size and weight. The granules must  
 85 also be able to slide readily over one another and in this connection the shape of the granules and the nature of the material is of importance. It has been found that suitable granular materials can be produced  
 90 from synthetic plastics, such as, for example, polystyrene, which have specific gravities in the range of about 0.75 to 1.5. The granule size should be about one-eighth of  
 95 an inch or less.

A particular feature of the breast of the present invention is that it is provided with means for adding to or subtracting from the weight and size at will. This provides an advantage not only to the manufacturer,  
 100 who is enabled to make the bags all of one size and to adjust the size and weight according to the requirements of the wearer, but also to the wearer herself who can adjust the size and weight herself as and when  
 105 necessary.

In general, the bag will be made of a textile fabric.

The bag is formed at its rear part which is to be worn against the body of a substan-  
 110

5 tially circular piece of material of a size depending upon the size of the patient. The front piece which forms the other half of the bag can be made in several ways but, in general, it will be made of two pieces. Each piece will be substantially half-circular, the radius being larger than the radius of the rear piece. The pieces are stitched at their edges to the edges of the rear piece with the diameters adjacent to each other, thereby forming a bag which in section is a segment of a circle. The junction of the two half circular pieces are also stitched together. The exact line of the stitching of the junction of the two diameters is made such that the resulting bag takes up, when filled with the granular material, approximately the desired shape.

20 As alternatives, the front can be made of one piece or of more than two pieces and can be made to take the required shape when the bag is filled by appropriate placing of darts or seams, as the case may be.

25 The open ended tube is formed at the top of the bag. One way to do this is to

provide when cutting out the rear part of the bag a piece of the material which extends away from the substantially circular part in the direction of a diameter for a distance approximately half the diameter of the circular part. A similar extending part is cut out on the material forming the front part. When the bag is stitched together, the two extending parts are also stitched along the edges thus forming on the bag a long open ended tubular neck which, when the breast is worn, can be conveniently folded across its rear. It is preferable to provide a loop on the rear through which the neck can be tucked.

The bag can be enclosed in a removable outer cover which is preferably of a material which can be easily washed.

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Fig. 1.

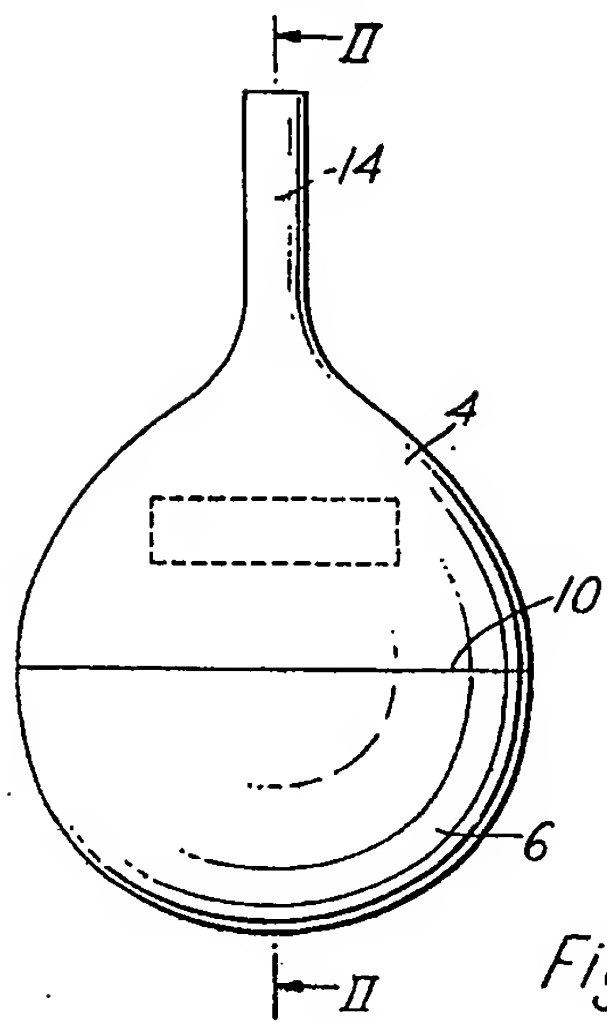


Fig. 2.

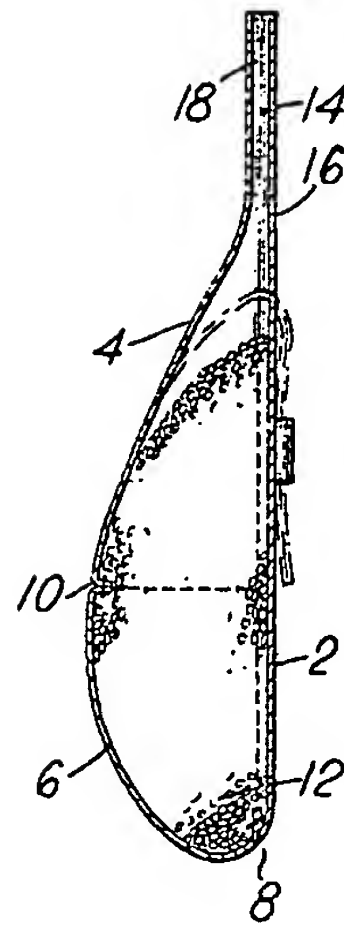


Fig. 3.

